

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Ariana Shapiro. I am a resident of New Haven, and a member of the Semilla Collective.

I stand in support of SB284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS.

I know and care about many people without documentation who deserve health care as much as anyone else in Connecticut. Children's health is essential to the health of our community, and expanding HUSKY access to all children will lift our entire community. Though I can think of many heartbreaking stories of children who were not able to receive the care they needed, or did receive that care and sent their families into debt, I'm confident you are hearing directly from people affected. As someone who currently is insured, and is able to seek both preventative and emergency care when necessary, I feel a strong conviction that everyone deserves the level of security I have.

I thank you for considering this HUSKY expansion, and looking forward, I ask the committee to work towards opening access to all immigrants regardless of age.

Thank you for your time,  
Ariana Shapiro